**Suggestion to review the existing labour laws**

2997. SHRI ABANI ROY : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Chairman of Second Labour Commission has recently urged the Government to review the existing laws in the country;

(b) if so, whether a seminar on "Industry-and Employment Perspective" was held at Calcutta, recently;

(c) if so, the details of discussions held in the seminar and outcome thereof;

(d) whether in view of pressing demands from some quarters the Government propose to amend the existing labour laws; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI MUNI LALL): (a) to (e) Review/updation of Labour Laws is a continuous process and amendments/fresh legislations are made depending on the result of the review. The Second National Commission on Labour set up vide resolution issued on 15-10-1999 would comprehensively review labour laws to ensure both consistency of labour laws with the general changes taking place in the economic policy and also to provide for greater welfare of the working class. As per its terms of reference, the Commission would suggest rationalisation of existing laws relating to labour in the organised sector and an umbrella legislation for ensuring a minimum level of protection to the workers in the un-organised sector. A seminar on "Second National Labour Commission : Industry and Employment Perspective" was organised on 27-03-2000 by the All India Organisation of Employers in collaboration with Bharat Chamber of Commerce, Calcutta which was supported by the International Labour Organisation Shri Ravindra Varma, Chairman, National Commission on Labour delivered the inaugural address at the said seminar.

The need for employment based economic development strategy as also unsustainability of jobless growth was discussed at the Seminar. Further, the importance of having a dual strategy involving restructuring and minimising the job losses on the one hand and creating better, more numerous and productive jobs, healthy competition, a balanced view of not only of consequences of changes but consequences of not changing as also the need for a comprehensive social safety on the other hand was also emphasised.